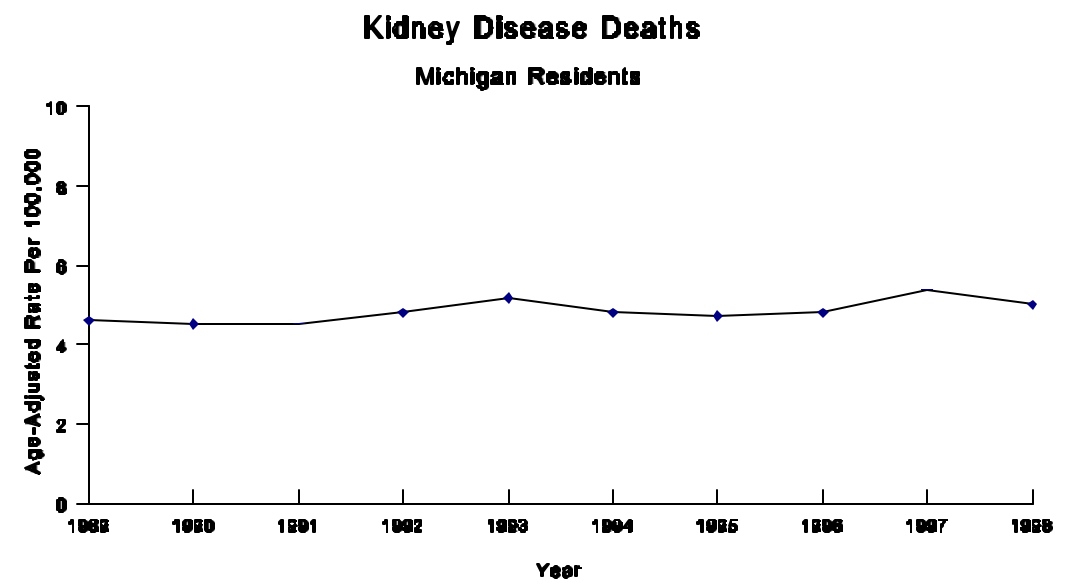


## Vital Statistics Indicators

### *Kidney Disease Deaths*



Source: Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, MDCH

### ***How are we doing?***

Kidney disease is the eighth leading cause of death in Michigan. Kidney disease alters the ability of the kidneys to remove excess fluid and waste products from the body. The two most common causes of kidney disease are diabetes and high blood pressure. End-stage renal disease (ESRD) is the total, or near total, loss of kidney function. Patients with ESRD must undergo dialysis or transplantation to stay alive. The progression of kidney disease may be delayed or prevented with proper treatment and diet.

In 1998, there were 1,087 deaths due to kidney disease in Michigan. The age-adjusted rate for kidney disease deaths was 5.0 per 100,000 population. Kidney disease deaths moved into the top 10 leading causes of death in 1996. This was due more to a decline in other causes of death than the increase in kidney disease deaths, which have been relatively stable for the past 10 years.

### ***How does Michigan compare with the U.S.?***

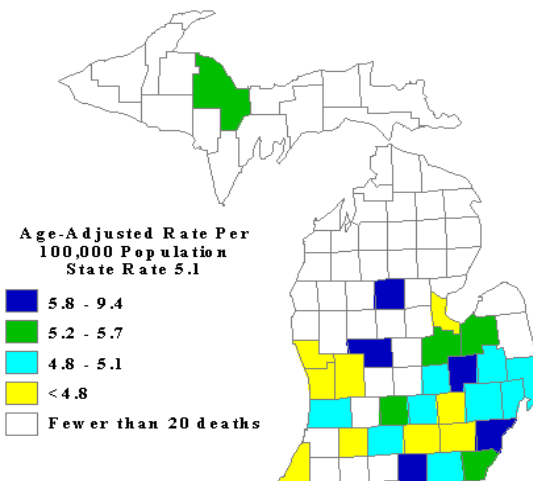
Michigan's 1997 age-adjusted death rate of 5.4 was similar to the U.S. rate of 4.4. Kidney disease was the ninth leading cause of death in the U.S. in 1997.

### ***How are different populations affected?***

African-Americans are more than twice as likely to die of kidney disease as whites. In 1998, the age-adjusted rate for African-Americans in Michigan was 10.5 compared to 4.3 for whites.

Men are more likely to die of kidney disease than women. The Michigan age-adjusted death rate was 6.0 for men and 4.4 for women.

**Kidney Disease Death Rates  
1996-1998 County Averages**



### ***What other information is important to know?***

U.S. data for 1997 indicated that 307,967 people had ESRD and 57,793 patients being treated for ESRD died in 1997. The five-year survival rate is about three times higher for transplant patients than for dialysis patients. At the end of 1997, there were 38,270 patients waiting for kidney transplants and 1,573 waiting for kidney and pancreas transplants in the U.S.

In 1997 there were 8,116 people on dialysis in Michigan, 2,042 of whom died. In addition to the people on dialysis, another 3,341 people had a working kidney transplant. At the end of 1997, there were 1,595 people waiting for a kidney and 78 waiting for a kidney and pancreas transplant in Michigan.

### ***What is the Department of Community Health doing to affect this indicator?***

The department, in partnership with the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM), is actively working to reduce kidney disease. As part of a collaborative effort, more than 500 persons were screened for kidney disease. All participants received a letter explaining the test results and follow-up contact if the results were abnormal. The department and NKFM assisted a managed care plan in the implementation of a diabetes model that ensures early identification of renal disease, proper treatment, and appropriate referrals. Pre-End Stage Renal Disease education is being provided to renal services consumers and their support person(s). Peer resource interventions are provided to renal services consumers through 40 dialysis centers located throughout Michigan. In conjunction with the NKFM and the Michigan Secretary of State, several efforts to increase organ donation have been initiated.

A Diabetes and Kidney Disease Program Guideline has been adopted and education programs have been developed. In the 1998-99 school year, the Kids Interested in the Care of their Kidneys program was presented in over 700 high schools and reached more than 89,000 kids. At least 13,000 of these students were African-American. Programs in Detroit churches and health fairs provide diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease, and organ donation information. In addition, a newly-initiated Detroit kidney disease awareness project makes information available through participating beauty shops. A public education campaign uses radio, newspaper, television, and other media sources with 16 million print media exposures to provide information about kidney disease.

Educational programs on diabetes and renal disease were provided to over 3,000 professionals, including physicians. These programs emphasize early identification and treatment.

Last updated: February 2000.